



# Quakers Hill High School In the Media 2009



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## An insight into life on the ward



Students from local high schools attended the recent Healthwise Expo at Hawkesbury Hospital.

by Amanda Perry

STUDENTS who are keen to learn about careers within the health industry turned out in force at Hawkesbury District Health Service last Tuesday.

More than 40 students from seven local high schools attended a Healthwise Expo at the hospital, where they were able to gather information and meet professionals working in the industry.

The hospital had displays and stalls throughout the day relating to various fields including community nursing, physiotherapy, and counselling.

The expo was organised by Sydney West Area Health Service, which will hold a total of eight expos in the western Sydney area during the coming months.

### Upcoming Healthwise Expos

- Blacktown Hospital on May 6
- Mt Druitt Hospital on May 8
- Westmead Hospital on May 18

The Health Service's chief executive, Professor Steven Boyages, said the Healthwise expos were a new initiative designed for Year 9 to 12 students to learn first-hand what it is like to work within the health industry.

"This is a great opportunity for the young people of western Sydney to make informed choices about pursuing a dynamic and satisfying career within the health industry," Prof Boyages said.

The Health Service's Nursing and Health

Professions in Schools program co-ordinator, Yvonne Brugmans, said the expos had been developed with the Australian Industry Group and local community partnerships across western Sydney.

"According to a 2006 Sydney West Area Health Service career information survey, most school students wanted more information on the health sector than any other industry," Ms Brugmans said.

"Healthwise has been created to fill this information gap on health career pathways currently available to schools, students and parents."

Sydney West Area Health Service is the largest employer in the health sector for the outer western Sydney region, employing staff from about 82 professions.



Students got an insight into a career in the health sector at the recent Healthwise Expo.

